

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An expression vector having a polynucleotide which hybridizes with a complementary chain of the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8 under a stringent condition and also encodes a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene.
2. (original) The expression vector described in claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide is the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8.
3. (currently amended) A transformant in which a host is transformed with the expression vector described in claim 1 ~~or~~ 2.
4. (original) The transformant described in claim 3, wherein the host is a microorganism.
5. (original) The transformant described in claim 4, wherein the microorganism is a yeast.
6. (original) An expression vector having: a polynucleotide which hybridizes with a complementary chain of the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8 under a stringent condition and also encodes a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene; and a β -amyrin synthase gene.
7. (original) The expression vector described in claim 6, wherein the polynucleotide is the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8.

8. (currently amended) A transformant in which a host is transformed with the expression vector described in claim 6 ~~or 7~~.

9. (original) The transformant described in claim 8, wherein the host is a microorganism.

10. (original) The transformant described in claim 9, wherein the microorganism is a yeast.

11. (original) A lanosterol synthase deficient yeast mutant strain deposited as FERM BP-10201.

12. (currently amended) A method for producing a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene, which comprises: a step of culturing the transformant described in claim 3 ~~any one of claims 3 to 5~~; and thereby producing the polypeptide described in claim 1.

13. (currently amended) A method for producing: a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene; and a β -amyrin synthase, which comprises culturing the transformant described in claim 8 ~~in any one of claims 8 to 10~~;

1) a step for producing the polypeptide described in claim 1 ~~3~~ and

2) a step for producing the β -amyrin synthase.

14. (currently amended) A method for producing an oleanane type triterpene in which the 24-position is hydroxylated, which comprises a step of allowing the transformant described in claim 3 ~~any one of claims 3 to 5~~ to act upon an oleanane type triterpene.

15. (currently amended) A method for producing an oleanane type triterpene in which the 24-position is hydroxylated, by culturing the transformant described in claim 8 ~~any one of claims 8 to 10~~.

16. (original) A method for producing an oleanane type triterpene in which the 24-position is hydroxylated, by culturing the yeast mutant strain described in claim 11.